Assignment of Lands.

228. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to make all future assignments of *puduval* lands in ordinary cases, subject to the condition that at least 75 per cent. of the land assigned in one taluk to any one individual or corporation should be utilised for regular cultivation or other productive industry or residence within five years from the time of the assignment?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Member is referred to the answer given to part (*b*) of his interpellation No. 227.

Fee concession to members of the Kammala and Goldsmith castes.

229. **MR. G. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) whether the concession *re* school fees has been extended to any, and if so, which of the Kammala castes; and

(2) whether the Government treat the Visvakarma (Goldsmith) community as backward in education and extend to it the fee concession or preferment in public service?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The Member is referred to G. O. R. Dis. No. 463 of 24/Leg. E., dated the 15th May 1924, published on pages 248 to 250 of the Education sheet of the *Government Gazette*, dated the 20th May 1924.

(2) The answer is in the affirmative.

Construction of a Lock in the Kayankulam Canal.

230. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on petitions submitted by the people of the Pathiyur *pakuthi* in the Kartikapalli taluk for having the dry season lock in the Kayankulam canal shifted about two miles to the south of its present position, for protecting the *punja* cultivation of those parts?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the cultivation in about 5,000 acres of *punja* fields in those parts suffers from the rush of brackish water almost every year?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to enquire into the loss and inconvenience to the travelling public and the cultivators, caused by the present location of the lock and the present contract arrangement for its upkeep?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to put up and maintain a proper lock at the proper place?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No such petition has been received by the Government.

(*b*) There are about 1,400 acres of *punja* lands within a distance of 5 miles from the dry season lock, but *punja* lands within a distance of one mile only are affected by the inrush of salt water during the years in which there is no rainfall during the hot season.

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